

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2201
February 28, 2012

House Committee on Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation
Michigan House of Representatives
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514

Dear Chairman Foster, Rep. Posthumus-Lyons and Committee Members:

I would like to thank the Committee on Natural Resources, Tourism and Outdoor Recreation for its consideration of House Resolution 178, a measure supporting the goals and passage of H.R. 2834, the "Recreational Fishing and Hunting Heritage and Opportunities Act."

Hunting and fishing for many in Michigan is more than a hobby—it is a way of life. I introduced H.R. 2834 in Congress to ensure that sportsmen in Michigan, and across the country, have access to federal lands to continue that storied tradition. My legislation recognizes the history and contributions of anglers and hunters on federal lands and establishes an "open until closed" policy. This measure will ensure that our children and grandchildren will have the same opportunities to enjoy federal forests and lands.

In November of last year, H.R. 2834 passed out of the House Committee on Natural Resources. The bill currently enjoys bipartisan support from fifty-five cosponsors.

I appreciate Rep. Lisa Posthumus-Lyons's support of this legislation and the introduction of House Resolution 178 for the committee's consideration. With your help, I am confident we can make certain the proud tradition of hunting and fishing on federal lands in Michigan is protected now and well into the future.

Sincerely,



Dan Benishek M. D.
Member of Congress
Michigan's First District